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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/570,557

03/12/2007

Stephan Blicher

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9949

616 7590 01/29/2009
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EXAMINER

JAIN, ANKUR

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2618

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/29/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/570,557		BLICKER ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	ANKUR JAIN		2618	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period **will** apply and **will** expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply **will**, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 20th, 2009 has been entered.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed September 17th, 2007 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

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the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. **Claims 9-16** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maggenti et al, US 2002/0077136 A1 (hereafter referenced as Maggenti), in view of Bensimon et al, US 2004/0047332 A1 (hereafter referenced as Bensimon).

Regarding **Claim 9**, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as outlined by claim 10 below.

Regarding **Claim 10**, Maggenti teaches "a method for push-to-talk communication between the members of an existing push-to-talk communication session within a first communication network operated by a first network operator using a Push-to-Talk over a communication system (PoC) application server" (see Paragraph 0042 and Figure 1). "Existing push-to-talk communication session...by a first network operator...using a Push-to-Talk over a communication system (PoC) application server" reads on the mobile switching center (MSC) 28, where both the "first network operator" and "Push-to-Talk over a communication system (PoC) application server" read on the

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mobile switching center (MSC) 28. "Existing push-to-talk communication session" reads on CDs 12, 14, and 16. Maggenti also teaches "a group of an additional communication network operated by a second network operator, using a Push-to-Talk over a communication system (PoC) application server" (see Paragraph 0035, 0036, 0043, and Figures 1 and 2). "Second network operator" and "Push-to-Talk over a communication system (PoC) application server" both read on the communications manager (CM) 18. "A group of an additional communication network" reads on the net the CM 18 transmits information to, similar to CD 112 and CD 116 of Figure 2. Maggenti also teaches "connecting the additional group to each of the existing groups of the session" (see Paragraphs 0041 through 0043, and Figure 1). The claim limitation reads on using the distributed network 26 for "connecting" the MSC 28 with CM 18 when a PTT transmission request is received from a communication device, such as CD 108 in Figure 2. Maggenti also teaches "identifying the PoC application server of the additional group by an address derived from a group address assigned to the additional group" (see Paragraph 0045 and Figure 1). "Address" reads on any of the information pertaining to individual net members as well as to each defined net maintained by CM 18. Maggenti does not teach "synchronizing the existing server to an additional server." However, Bensimon generally teaches "synchronizing the existing server to an additional server" (see Abstract, Paragraph 0021, and Figure 1). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Maggenti with the above mentioned limitations as taught by Bensimon, for the purpose of enhancing and increasing system efficiency by introducing the concept of

synchronization and by making a connection between the additional server and the existing server.

Regarding **Claim 11 and Claim 12**, Maggenti teaches “PoC application servers” (see claim 10). Bensimon generally teaches “wherein the synchronization is carried out automatically by servers” (see Abstract, Paragraph 0021, and Figure 1).

Regarding **Claim 13 and Claim 14**, Maggenti teaches “PoC groups and a PoC message” (see claim 10). Bensimon generally teaches “wherein the synchronization is carried out whenever a user requests update of all group members before sending a message” (see Abstract and Paragraph 0023). The terminals can “request an update of all group members” when there is subscription sharing. Also, since there is “synchronization” between the servers and between the servers and terminals, the “synchronization can be carried out whenever a user requests update of all group members.”

Regarding **Claim 15**, Maggenti teaches a system for push-to-talk communication between push-to-talk groups of at least two communication networks, the system comprising: “one common group management system” (see Paragraph 0031 and Figure 1). Maggenti also teaches “at least one subsystem for each network operator consisting of at least one push-to-talk communication application server” (see claim 10 regarding the discussion of MSC 28 and CM 18).

Regarding **Claim 16**, Maggenti teaches “wherein the communication networks are radio communication networks” (see Paragraph 0063 and Figure 4).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ankur Jain whose telephone number is 571-272-9747. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm, EST, Alternate Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yuwen Pan can be reached on 571-272-7855. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the

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automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ankur Jain/
Examiner, Art Unit 2618
01/28/2009

/Yuwen Pan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2618